



February 11, 2021

Today is the World Day of the Sick

~ excerpts from an article by Robin Gomes, Vatican News

“A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love.” Pope Francis makes this point in his message for this year’s World Day of the Sick.

Sickness, Pope Francis notes, makes us realize our own vulnerability and our innate need of others. It raises the question of life’s meaning, which we bring before God in faith, or in order to seek a new and deeper direction in our lives.

The World Day of the Sick was established by Pope Saint John Paul II in 1992 to offer prayers for those who are suffering from illnesses.

February 11 was chosen as the date for the observance because it coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, a title given to the Blessed Mother after her appearances to St. Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes, France, in 1858. Each year, millions travel to Lourdes, seeking healing.

The World Day of the Sick is also an opportunity to recognize the ministry of health-care workers, hospital chaplains, volunteers, support staff and all who care for the sick, serving as a reminder that they are carrying on the healing ministry of Christ. “Thanks to their expertise, they can make patients feel the presence of Christ who consoles and cares for the sick and heals every hurt,” said Pope Francis.

The current pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in our healthcare systems and inefficiencies in the care of the sick, with the elderly, weak and vulnerable people not always granted access to care, or in an equitable manner. Pope Francis says that as a community, we too, are called to be merciful like the Father and to love in particular our frail, infirm, and suffering brothers and sisters, leaving no one behind. To read the complete message of Pope Francis click [here](#)



Pope Francis offers comfort to a very ill woman.

Photo: Vatican VA

CARITAS: Access to Vaccine is Uneven

~ by Junno Arocho Esteves, *Catholic New Service*

VATICAN CITY (CNS) – Caritas Internationalis called on world leaders to set aside national and political agendas that seek returns on their investments in the COVID-19 vaccine and instead focus on its equitable distribution, especially in poor countries.

In a statement released February 5, the umbrella organization of official national Catholic Charities around the world said that while the availability of the vaccine has brought much hope, it has also



revealed “a wider gap in inequality.”

“It is believed that the ‘miracle’ of the vaccines would reignite the global machinery,” the statement said. “This has led to a kind of focus on the North, shown in nationalism and protectionism. The global South, where the majority of the poor live, is left out.”

A healthcare worker administers a dose of Sinovac’s CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine to a person at a clinic in Santiago, Chile earlier this month.

(CNS photo/Ivan Alvarado, Reuters)

Taking care of the poor and the marginalized, who are the “most exposed to

the virus,” is “a moral priority because abandoning [these people] puts them and the global community at risk.”

Caritas urged global leaders to ease patent protections and promote collaboration with pharmaceutical companies so the vaccines could be manufactured and made “available in the next six months” in Africa, Latin America and Asia. Local production, they said, must begin, “before it is too late.”

The statement also highlighted the importance of involving local charitable and faith-based organizations that “have basic structures and the necessary contact with the most vulnerable people such as migrants, the internally displaced and the marginalized.”

“This pandemic is a global human security problem that threatens the whole human family,” Caritas said. “Addressing the vaccine issue from the perspective of a narrow national strategy might lead to a moral failure in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable across the globe.”

To read the entire article click [here](#)

“A Joyful Day for Us and for Our Institute”

~ a Reflection by Sr. Ayantu Abera Bishaka, MSC and Sr. Tigist Hailemariam Loha, MSC

February 2, 2021 was a big day and a joyful day for us and for our Institute, and for our families. On this day we made our first profession as Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; and we were welcomed as Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini’s daughters.

Saying yes to the Lord’s call, we continue our journey with Him and to serve his people. Being a disciple of Jesus is also all about channeling energy in a single direction and the primary energy we channel is love.

One part of the ceremony held a deep fascination for us. When we received the cross, Sr. Diane Dalle Molle, MSC, Regional Superior of the Holy Spirit Region, said, “In poverty, you give all that you have; in chastity, you give all that you are; in obedience, you give all that you can become. May God’s good grace be with you now and always.” These are enormously powerful words describing our commitment and our journey.



“We are so happy being part of our MSC community.”

Action Alert from Justice for Immigrants at the USCCB

Requesting Congress to Pass Additional COVID-19 Relief

As the American people remain resolute in mitigating the impact of COVID-19, the pandemic continues to devastate our nation's health and economic well-being. Although legislation has been enacted to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on families, there are still many who need relief. We must do more to ensure that no one is left behind and that everyone is given a chance to overcome COVID-19.

We stand in solidarity with the [USCCB](#) because as Catholics we are called to be a Church for all God's children. We affirm the inherent dignity of every person and our duty as Christians to work for the common good of all God's people. We urge Congress to move forward with another COVID-19 relief package. In addition, in any future COVID-19 relief package,

Please send a message to Congress - suggested language:

Dear Senators/Representative:

As a Catholic person of faith, I believe in protecting the God-given dignity of every human being and pursuing the common good. Please move forward with another COVID-19 relief package as soon as possible

I respectfully urge you to consider:

- 1) Automatically extending work authorization and visa renewal deadlines for refugees and immigrants who are providing economic and recovery assistance to our country (particularly DACA recipients, TPS holders and essential workers);***
- 2) Provide no-cost COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccination for all, regardless of immigration status, as this is a public safety issue that collectively impacts all members of our society; and***
- 3) Ensure that hardworking and struggling immigrant and refugee families are eligible for economic impact payments.***

Know you are in my thoughts and prayers at this critical moment in our nation's history.

Learn more about COVID-19 migration impact on the [JFI COVID-19 Resource page](#).

~ with thanks to Nancy Golen, Executive Director, Cabrini Retreat Center, Des Plaines, IL

Praying for Life



While in their classrooms, the Cabrini students participated in saying the rosary via livestream.

Photo credit: Katelyn Ehrhardt, CHS

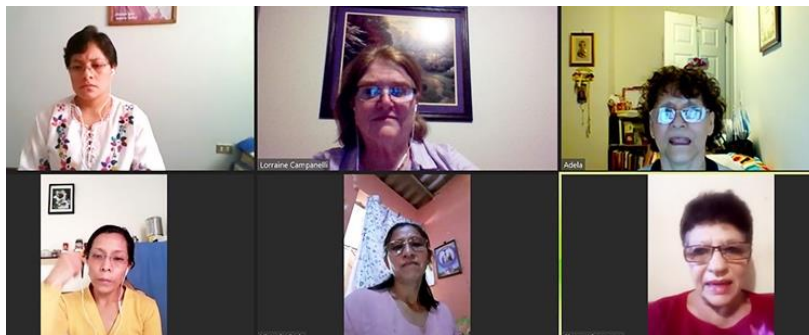
Every year, over 500 Catholic School students from the Archdiocese of New Orleans travel to Washington D.C. to March for Life in hopes of overturning the Roe v. Wade ruling from 1973. However, due to COVID-19, the trip was not possible this year so, Archbishop Aymond had the rosary streamed live to all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of New Orleans to unite in prayer. ~ submitted by Katelyn Ehrhardt, Cabrini High School and with thanks to Sr. Renee Kittelson, MSC



The CLM Corner

This is an occasional feature about the Cabrini Lay Missionaries and their ministries.

A Time of Discernment



Sr. Sonnia Osorio, MSC (top l.), CLM Director Lorraine Campanelli, (top c.) and Adela Jarquin (top r.) met with women who are discerning becoming CLMs.

On Sunday, February 7th, Cabrini Lay Missionary Adela Jarquin and I had a wonderful meeting with Sr. Sonnia Osorio, MSC and 3 women from Guatemala who are interested in becoming Cabrini Lay Missionaries (CLMs).

As much as I hear, and at times feel, that we are “zoomed out,” I am grateful for that technology so that we can meet one another

across the miles. We are looking forward to working together and discerning God’s will as they journey to become CLMs.

We are also looking forward to our next meeting on February 20th when those who are interested in becoming CLMs will meet via Zoom with those who have made their public commitment as CLMs. Please keep all of us in your prayers. ~ Lorraine Campanelli, Director, Cabrini Lay Missionaries

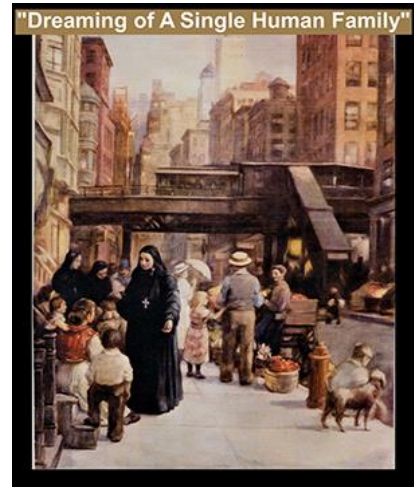
Please Mark Your Calendars

for the Second Webinar

in our **Compelling Webinar Series on Immigration:**

“Dreaming of a Single Human Family”

Sponsored by:
The National Shrine of St. Frances X. Cabrini, Chicago, IL
in collaboration with
The Cabrini Retreat Center, Des Plaines, IL
with the gracious participation
of Cabrini University faculty and staff members



WEDNESDAY, February 24, 2021

8:00 am PST/9:00 am MST/10:00 am CST/11:00 am EST/*

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/99875666298>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13017158592,,99875666298# or +13126266799,,99875666298#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 9128

Webinar ID: 998 7566 6298

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/adpY19BXrg>

The Center on Immigration:

Challenges in Migration and a Cabrinian Response

As global politics further restrict migration, push factors such as global inequality, unyielding violence, and irreversible climate change persist and intensify. This virtual webinar will provide a concise overview of challenges facing immigrant communities at a local, national, and international level. It will also address how The Center on Immigration at Cabrini University is responding to these challenges and provide suggestions for people seeking to work for justice with people in migration.



Presenter:

Abel Rodriguez, JD ('01)

Abel Rodriguez is Director of the Center on Immigration and Assistant Professor of Religion, Law and Social Justice at Cabrini University. His scholarship, teaching and advocacy focus on migrant justice. He is an expert and frequent presenter on immigration policy and the intersection of criminal and immigration law. Rodriguez earned a Juris Doctor at U. of Penn, a Masters of Theological Studies at Harvard, and a Master of Arts in Latin American Studies at Stanford, and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish at Cabrini College. Mr. Rodriguez can be reached at: ar3269@cabrini.edu

*If you are unable to join the webinar as it is being presented live, the presentations will be recorded and will be available on the websites of the National Shrine: www.cabrinationalshrine.org and the Missionary Sisters: www.motherscabrini.org

Please mark your calendars for the upcoming webinar:

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 9:00 am MST/ 10:00 am CST/ 11:00 EST



The CLM Corner

*Each week during Lent,
one of the Cabrini Lay Missionaries will be offering a reflection.
The reflection for **Ash Wednesday** is offered by **Pat Krasnausky**.*

Cinderella and the Ashes

Recently I read in Ronald Rolheiser's *Daybreaks, Daily Reflections for Lent and Easter Week*, that the story of Cinderella, a century-old wisdom tale, has some relevance for Ash Wednesday.

The name Cinderella literally means "the young girl who sits in the cinders". Actually, she slept by the hearth in the ashes where her stepmother sent her to be humiliated. While I have not given Cinderella, the fairy tale, a thought since I was seven years of age, other wiser people have done so, and we are told that the moral of the story is clear: before the glass slipper, the ball gown, and the Prince, there is a time of humiliation. There seems to be a theology of Lent in this tale.

Ashes are mentioned forty-two times in the Old Testament, but merely four times in the New Testament. When they are mentioned they refer to incidents in the Old Testament such as Tyre and Sidon and Sodom and Gomorrah, when sackcloth and ashes were the dress of the day. In the Old Testament ashes are symbolic: first, of man's humanity, his creation from the earth, dust, or ashes. Abraham called himself "dust and ashes" when he spoke to the Lord. God says to Adam and Eve in the Garden "Remember man that you are dust and unto dust you shall return."

Ashes are also symbolic of mourning in the Old Testament, and last but not least, they are symbolic of repentance. We all learned this in Sunday school, or at Mass, or in another formative setting. So, on Ash Wednesday we stop to recall that we are humans, made from ash, and that we have not lived up to all we were created to be as humans. Then we repent.

It is interesting that more people go to Church on Ash Wednesday than on any other day of the year, even Christmas. Why? Receiving the ashes is an act of humility, and act of penance, but also, I believe, an act publicly declaring that we belong to God and to the community of believers to whom we are admitting that we have sinned. We wear our ashes like a tattoo, i. e. we belong to this gang or tribe that is serious about following Jesus into the desert and all the way to Easter Sunday.

To return to poor dusty Cinderella who we left in the ashes, we will need to take a step forward in the tale to learn the moral of the story. With the help of her Fairy Godmother, the former beggar who she helped, (you see where this is going now!) she is able to get her act together and be transformed. Soon she is taken out of the ashes and from the chimney, and then on to the castle for the Ball by the Prince.



This is both our lesson and our consolation as we prepare for Lent: "The Lord indeed raises up the needy from the dust, lifts up the poor from the ash heap, and seats them with princes."

Prayer Requests

Joe Gillespie

Prayers are requested for Joe Gillespie, a good friend of Cabrini College alumna Sheila Ross Breen '69 and her husband Jim. Joe is hospitalized and seriously ill with COVID-19. Please pray that he will make a full recovery.



Lenten Calendar 2021

The Archdiocese of Chicago invites you to participate in a journey of faith, reflection and action. As you recall the steps and agony of Jesus in the desert you are invited to see the suffering face of Christ in immigrants and refugees.

Please use and share this Lenten calendar [[English](#) [Spanish](#)] as a guide for reflection and action as we continue the 15-year journey for immigration reform.

You are also invited to participate in the “40 Days of Prayer, Fasting and Action for Immigration Reform” [Lenten Campaign](#) organized by the Immigration Ministry of the Archdiocese of Chicago and in solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters.

~ with thanks to Nancy Golen, Executive Director, Cabrini Retreat Center